

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 000913

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, CASC, GE, US

SUBJECT: GDR HUMANITARIAN CASES

REF; A) BERLIN 6195, B) USBERLIN 2343

1. OUR OBJECTIVE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GDR ON HUMANITARIAN CASES IS TO ACHIEVE FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS AND TO PERMIT US AND GDR CITIZENS TO MARRY IF THEY SO CHOOSE AND TO LIVE IN THE COUNTRY OF THEIR PREFERENCE. DEPARTMENT WORKED CLOSELY WITH RED CROSS IN DEVELOPING CASES PRESENTED TO GDR IN JULY AND PLANS TO CONTINUE THIS COOPERATION. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GDR TO DATE, DEPARTMENT HAS EMPHASIZED THAT US NOT ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH ANY PRINCIPLES OR PRECEDENTS, NOR IS IT OUR INTENTION TO GENERATE PUBLICITY. US SIMPLY WISHES TO RESOLVE INDIVIDUAL CASES.

2. WHILE FOCUS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH GDR HAS BEEN ON JULY LIST, DEPARTMENT HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS LIST IS NOT NECESSARILY ALL INCLUSIVE AND THAT ADDITIONAL NAMES
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MAY BE SUBMITTED AT A LATER DATE. IN PREPARING JULY

LIST DURING SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER OF 1974, DEPARTMENT ASSUMED THAT RECORDS AVAILABLE TO USBER, DEPARTMENT AND RED CROSS WOULD BY NO MEANS INCLUDE ALL DESERVING CASES. MOREOVER, AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF AMERICAN FAMILIES/ FIANCES, SOME CASES WERE NOT INCLUDED ON LIST. WE RECOGNIZED THAT SOME OF THESE INDIVIDUALS MIGHT WISH HAVE USG REPRESENT THEIR INTERESTS AT A LATER DATE, AND THAT NEW CASES WOULD BE CERTAIN TO ARISE.

3. IN REPLYING TO RECENT LETTERS CONCERNING NEW CASES, DEPARTMENT HAS STATED THAT WE WILL BE STUDYING THIS MATTER IN THE COMING MONTHS AND THAT WE WILL MENTION ADDITIONAL CASES TO GDR IF IT APPEARS THAT THIS WILL BE USEFUL. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED OR USG INTERESTS TO MENTION ADDITIONAL NAMES IF IT IS OBVIOUS THAT SUCH ACTION WILL ONLY COMPLICATE THE LIVES OF THE GDR CITIZENS CONCERNED WITHOUT IMPROVING THEIR CHANCES OF OBTAINING AN EXIT PERMIT.

4. MICKEL (PARA 2 REF A) CALLED AT DEPARTMENT NOVEMBER 26 BUT SEEMED MOST UNCERTAIN ABOUT HIS DESIRES. HE AGREED TO WRITE THE DEPARTMENT ABOUT HIS CASE BUT HAS NOT DONE SO. HE SPOKE VAGUELY ABOUT WISHING TO TEACH AT A GDR UNIVERSITY IN ORDER TO BE NEAR HIS FIANCE, WHOSE NAME HE PREFERRED NOT TO MENTION TO DEPARTMENT. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING MEMCON OR OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON THIS CASE.

5. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT NOTE TO GDR AS PROPOSED BY EMBASSY (BERLIN 6134) WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. PROPOSED TEXT NEEDS ADJUSTMENT IN VIEW OF ISSUANCE OF EXIT VISA IN CHASE CASE AND DEPARTMENT THEREFORE RECOMMENDS USE OF FOLLOWING(UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED): BEGIN TEXT TO REFER TO LIST OF PERSONS WHICH WAS DELIVERED TO GDR AT WASHINGTON IN JULY DURING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. PARA. THE EMBASSY HAS NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT ONE OF THESE CASES HAS BEEN RESOLVED AND TRUSTS THAT IT WILL BE POSSIOLE TO FACILITATE THE ISSUANCE OF EXIT VISAS TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHER PERSONS ON THIS LIST SO THAT THEY MAY JOIN THEIR RELATIVES AND FIANCES IN THE UNITED STATES AT AN EARLY DATE. PARA. ACCORDINGLY, THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE MINISTRY MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TO DISCUSS REUNIFICATION PROCEDURES. END TEXT.

6. PRESS GUIDANCE PROPOSED REF(B) SHOULD BE AMENDED AS SUGGESTED BY EMBASSY BERLIN. IN ADDITION, PENULTIMATE SENTENCE SHOULD BE CHANGED TO READ: "WE WELCOME THIS DEVELOPMENT AND HOPE THAT PROGRESS IN OTHER PENDING FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND FIANCÉ CASES MAY ALSO BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED IN THE NEAR FUTURE." INGERSOLL

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